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Dear Js,

When I tell you that I figured Nixon's speech tonight in advance except for one minor point, don't be impressed because I enjoye a unique advantage I'll explain. In fact, if I thought there were any real point in it, I'd warn Tom Kelly, who is in charge of security. They have gotten a bit careless over the Kennedy days, when (and Ike's, too) they varied the flight patterns of the Camp-David bound helicopters. Now, at least at this end, close to it, they never do. And I'm telling you that although Nixon hates Washington more than any President, spends more time there than any ever did, I can remember but one time when there was as much traffic, so I knew something was up and have for several days. More so after it was announced that he drove up in a car and at night. The reason given in rain. No, it rained but slightly (I'm only on the other side of the mountain). Perhaps fog. But what this really means is that even for him he was anxious to get away. One of the benefits is fewer interruptions and closer contact with those with whom he wants it.

I also knew this a.m. without benefit of wire service that he was making a speech tonight. I was talking to a friend on the Star when they got the word. Right after it I went out to continue my own liberation struggle, freeing the pines not already killed by the honeysuckle. Which gave me time to think.

Nobody could possibly believe Nixon waited until after the Florida primary just not to interfere. He waited for a reading. He got it and then went to work like hell. He had to redo major parts of what he had prepared, what he was going to propose. Knowing the results there and this inordinate traffic told me everything I had to know. I missed calling the shot on the invocation of lower-court decisions, figured the speech would be even shorter than it was. But there I underestimated the skunk. The extra time was taken up with goodies for everyone. He was careful to phrase his endorsement of what is unpopular in the south in such a way that only the KKKs can really take exception to it. And for the right he had all the stock phrases they love, like the repeated experimenting social reformers.

There is no court problem if he is going to do the illegal, as I suspect he is. He owns the ultimate court. What we don't know is how that money will be spent. All we know is where education is supposed to be poorest. I hope it is on center-city schools. I have no doubt it will pass the Congress fast, especially with that lovely name. I don't think there will be any significant opposition. He will have undercut Wallace seriously. And I think Askew had a notion of what was happening because of something he was quoted on yesterday, about the administration using that straw vote there.

Tonight it was raining, hard about six or a little before when we got home. But at about 8 I heard the last chopper going back to DC. I don't know whether or not it was Nixon's. If it was, they he did work until the last minute. I suspect it was not and that he had it all done earlier with advance copies for the a.m.s

I didn't try and guess how much money he'd recommend, but that is the first think I told Lil he would do. I don't know if this divides into enough, but it should build quite a few schools. Trouble is I suspect that it would not build what is needed in NYC, Phila., Balt., DC, Chicago, LA and SF. And that is only part of the country.

The strange thing is that I have a hunch it marks a step and maybe an important one in the right direction.

I'm wide awake when I should be in bed, so I thought you might want to know of the one advantage I have found in being real close to Camp David. And careless security management. The regs used to require different and unannounced flight paths. And when he spent an hour and a half driving instead of waiting for a.m. and a 20-30 minute chopper ride, I knew it had to be something. That and the exceedingly heavy traffic. The traffic meant much coming and going of people, either top functionaries or couriers to them, returning with messages, recommendations, etc.

If anybody ever did a story on how little time Nixon spends in Washington, it would be a new record, even with Ike's golf and his farm, which is only about 10 minutes by chopper from Camp David. A joke you may enjoy, I've never been to a place with as little security as Ike's farm. I was all the way in before I stopped. Nobody stopped me. One pillbox after another was empty. He was getting some of my rare ducks. When I got to the farm proper, where the old dairy of the bank barn had been converted into security hq, they finally started to ask me question when I was seen for the first time by a guard. Then the

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farm man, who expected me, took over. He and I carried the ducks to the pond, with him guiding me around the various hidden alarms near the home (which had just been rebuilt to give an enormous window to the west and a beautiful view from it). When we got to the pond and turned the ducks loose, I notice a solitary female honker. I asked, where's the male? Hope you are sitting down,' security and all that. He was stolen! Do you know what a feat it is just to catch a Canada honker, without all that security? And how much clamor he can and does make?

Why they always go to the camp the same way at the end of the flight I don't know. The mountains are not that high. They really should use various directions, to comply with the regulations. So, I deduce, that Nixon is not concerned with one of the radical rights here having a Swedish Bofors stached away. (They have about everything else, I guess.)

But this carelessness could supply the plot for an assassination novel.

Best,